

Paul: A Preacher in Rome

Introduction: God has been in complete _____ of Paul's circumstances and continues to use him in a special way. He will ultimately reach Rome and share the gospel there. "Men may bind the preachers, but the gospel cannot be chained" (Bible Knowledge Commentary).

- I. The _____ (Acts 28:1-2)
- A. God providentially led Paul and the prisoners to an island where the people would be _____.
 - B. "Barbarians" in those days were not necessarily savage people, but those that did not speak _____.
 - C. The weather was _____ and the people built a fire for the Romans.
 - D. If these unsaved people knew how to show hospitality, how much more should _____ do the same (Ro. 12:13; 1 Pe. 4:9).
- II. The _____ (Acts 28:3-10)
- A. Paul was not too good to do menial _____ --to pick up sticks.
 - B. He was always a hard _____.
 - C. Paul did not deliberately pick up a _____ --there is no snake handling found in the New Testament (Matt. 4:7).
 - D. God allowed for this _____ during the writing of the NT as a means of confirming the new revelation (Mk. 16:17-18).
 - E. People seeking the healing would be more _____ to the gospel.
 - F. Meeting a person's _____ needs first may open the door to meet their spiritual needs.
- III. The _____ (Acts 28:11-31)
- A. In his travels to Rome, Paul found Christians who _____ him.
 - B. Paul again stated his case to the _____ insisting on his innocence.
 - C. The Jews of Rome were _____ to hear Paul's message.
 - D. When the Jews gathered, Paul preached _____ to the people (1 Cor. 1:23).
 - E. He preached all _____!
 - F. There will always be two categories of people: those who _____ and those who do not.
 - G. Rejection of God's Word is nothing _____ (Is. 6:9-10).
 - H. "Obstinate _____ to believe results in calloused hearts, deafened ears, and spiritually blinded eyes" (Bible Knowledge Commentary).
 - I. Paul lived under a type of house _____ for two years freely preaching.
 - J. Tradition says Paul was freed, but later _____ outside Rome.

Conclusion: "The record is not concluded. The Holy Spirit continues to work today. The acts of the Holy Spirit have not been finished even in our day. The Book of Acts will end with the Rapture, the coming of Christ for His own. The work of the church has not yet been completed; it is a continuing story. What you and I have done in the power of the Holy Spirit will be included in that record" (McGee).